

With the increasing trend of ***Teenage Pregnancies***. The Council is committed to a continued effort to combat teen pregnancies through early prevention efforts. A subcommittee has formed to analyze the teen pregnancy issue further and is in the process of seeking outside funding through a Teenage Pregnancy Reduction Grant funded by Emory State University. A subcommittee of the health council has collaborated to coordinate the grant proposal. The subcommittee consists of representatives of the health council including the local school system, YMCA, and Healthy Start. Currently the school system is working diligently to provide ongoing awareness and education to school children about issues regarding teen pregnancies.

In regards to **Obesity and Wellness issues**, the White County Health Council is committed to providing health care screenings each year via a health fair. There is excellent community involvement with representation from various local agencies. Some of the free health screenings provided to the community include: weight/height, blood pressure, cholesterol, blood typing, urinalysis, dental examinations, eye and hearing, immunizations, and physicals. A cooperative effort between the White County Community Hospital, White County Health Department, White County Health Council, and the Tennessee Army National Guard has resulted in annual community-wide health screenings. One of the outcrops of the community-wide health screenings has been a Teen Health Fair held in the high school during school hours. Through this health fair, all Juniors and Seniors in the high school went through a health screening including: weight/height, blood pressure, eye and hearing exams, and immunizations. The response from the community was overwhelmingly positive and the council anticipates coordinating this event along with the community-wide screening on an annual basis.

In subsequent meetings, the council has agreed to address the issues of Tobacco Use, Alcohol Abuse, Drug Abuse, Child Abuse/Neglect, and STD's/AIDS. Community Diagnosis is an ongoing process, continually assessing the health status and interventions of the county. Many issues correlate to one other and may be addressed in other interventions. All interventions and programs will be evaluated as to the effectiveness of the outcomes. Accurate, continuous community assessments are vital to the health and well-being of our society. As new priorities surface along with interventions, thorough data analysis along with the perception of the communities will remain the focus of the Community Diagnosis process.